



# Brownfields 2006 Grant Fact Sheet

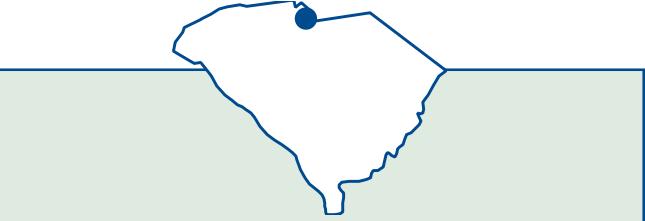
## Catawba Regional Council of Governments, Rock Hill, SC

### EPA Brownfields Program

EPA's Brownfields Program empowers states, communities, and other stakeholders to work together to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. A brownfield site is real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant. On January 11, 2002, President George W. Bush signed into law the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act. Under the Brownfields Law, EPA provides financial assistance to eligible applicants through four competitive grant programs: assessment grants, revolving loan fund grants, cleanup grants, and job training grants. Additionally, funding support is provided to state and tribal response programs through a separate mechanism.

### Community Description

The Catawba Regional Council of Governments was selected to receive a brownfields assessment grant. The Council serves a four-county region (total population 289,914) of north-central South Carolina. The target area for assessment is the Old Town area of the City of Rock Hill (population 20,748) in York County. The Old Town core was once a thriving textile community. With the decline of the textile industry, the Old Town area lost its main source of economic stability and social



### Assessment Grant



#### \$200,000 for hazardous substances

EPA has selected the Catawba Regional Council of Governments for a brownfields assessment grant. Hazardous substances grant funds will be used to inventory and prioritize brownfields sites, conduct community outreach activities, perform Phase I and II environmental site assessments, and develop reuse plans for sites in the urban core of the City of Rock Hill.

### Contacts

For further information, including specific grant contacts, additional grant information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields web site at: [www.epa.gov/brownfields](http://www.epa.gov/brownfields).

EPA Region 4 Brownfields Team  
404-562-8866

<http://www.epa.gov/region4/waste/bf/index.htm>

Grant Recipient: Catawba Regional Council of Governments, SC  
803-327-9041

The cooperative agreement for this grant has not yet been negotiated; therefore, activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.

vitality. The area was left with abandoned brownfields, remnants of the textile industry, service stations, drycleaners, and stores selling fertilizer and pesticides. Although the Rock Hill population grew by almost 20 percent from 1999 to 2001, Old Town's population decreased nearly nine percent. Approximately 60 percent of the area's residents are considered low-income, and 19 percent live in poverty. Nearly 60 percent of Old Town residents are minorities. Assessment of the area's brownfields sites will begin a process that will attract investments for mixed-use development projects, including residential, retail, and office space, creating new employment opportunities and restoring economic stability and social vitality to the City of Rock Hill.